

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ill
March 8/87

Dear Mr Watson -

The Willms
are safe in hand this morning
after being a long time
on the way. Looking them
over has been in the whole
not a cheerful nor encouraging
experience. I encountered such
deplorable stuff written down
"fide Beck" on the strength of
numbered specimens sent to me
for determination! Well I am
glad to have a chance to
correct at any rate.

Types of Anderson will be
very useful - and instructive
I will take good care of the
specimens and return them
in a reasonable time -

I have gone at our
Willms de novo - Taking each

individual specimens worthy
of examination. simply as an
individual / that is with no pre-
conceived notion of the species /
and have made a careful and
thorough study of details. Drawing
on the page sheet. The capsule -
scale - stigmas - &c. to a uniform
scale of 8 diameters. Gradually all of
all this detail work has already
began to come a clearer definition
of the limits of species -

But I am done naming
specimens by numbers unless I
can feel dead sure that my
correspondent knows when two
things are the same with both
before his eyes. The mischief
of it was I had to do so much
of this sort of thing at a time
when I was myself a mere
learner.

Yours very truly
M. S. Zettl